

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE WORK OF THE VALLEY SYRIA RELIEF COMMITTEE

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise in appreciation of the efforts of my constituents to educate their fellow Americans about the human consequences of more than a decade of horrendous armed conflict in Syria and to provide support to the Syrian people.

The crisis in Syria has faded from the headlines here in the U.S. But my constituents understand that democracy and justice, at home and abroad, depend on the commitment and participation of engaged American citizens. They have not given up, and neither must we.

Their efforts are well described in a column by Sara Weinberger of the Valley Syria Relief Committee, published on November 15 in the Daily Hampshire Gazette, and which I would like to include in the RECORD.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN SYRIA HITS HOME

(By Sara Weinberger)

"It was 11:15 a.m. on Sept. 30th. I was one of six heads on the Zoom screen. Michael Kane, Micky McKinley, Debbie Shriver and I stared in silence. The four of us comprised The Valley Syrian Relief Committee.

"Sharing the screen were two of Congressman Jim McGovern's staff. We had requested the meeting to give the congressman an update on the war in Syria, now in its 11th year, and to ask that he raise his voice in Congress to save Syrian lives.

"What we didn't know was that McGovern had spent the morning trying to pass a stop-gap bill on the last day of the fiscal year to prevent a government shutdown. Not a great day for our meeting, I thought, imagining a preoccupied McGovern politely listening to our presentation, while his mind was elsewhere. Apologizing for his late arrival, he left his morning crisis at the door, and for the next hour listened intently, asked questions, and showed us that the purpose of our visit genuinely mattered.

"In 2011, Syrians, inspired by our democratic form of government, demonstrated in defiance of the authoritarian regime of Syria's brutal dictator, Bashar Al Assad. They have been paying for it ever since with their lives and their livelihoods, with a whole generation of traumatized children who have lost loved ones, ran for refuge from barrel bombs, and tried to hold onto hope in a place that many have deemed a hell on earth. Yet, with our own country's democracy in peril, garnering interest in longstanding wars on the other side of the world can be a challenge.

"This was not the case in our own community, where several hundred of McGovern's constituents have faithfully demonstrated their commitment and concern for the welfare of Syrians since 2014. In September 2015, they filled the sanctuary of First Churches for our first big event, "Songs for Syria" to raise funds for the Syrian American Medical Society. We reminded McGovern of the hundreds who accepted our invitations to edu-

cate members of his district's interfaith organizations, who broke bread with us, shared soup, and bought copies of "The Soup for Syria" cookbook, produced by local publisher Michel Moushabeck.

"Folks from Franklin and Hampshire counties shipped a container filled with everything from diapers, to winter clothing, to shoes and boots to enable refugees and displaced people living in tents to survive the long Syrian winter. Actions led to more actions: groups gathered to write personal letters of hope to assure Syrian children and their families that they are not alone.

"Rebecca Leopold's students at Amherst Regional High School formed the Refugees in Distress Club, developing a curriculum to educate younger students about the situation in Syria. With the help of our partners at the Washington, D.C.-based Syrian Emergency Task Force, Mazen Al-Hamuda, spent a day at ARHS openly shared his traumatic story of the physical and emotional scars of brutal torture he endured in a Syrian prison.

"The above stories only scratch the surface of the many actions the residents of Congressional District 2 engaged in on behalf of the Syrian people. Their efforts allowed the Valley Syrian Relief Committee to raise more than \$200,000 for humanitarian assistance and bring internationally known experts to inform and engage people in efforts to make sure the people of Syria are not forgotten.

"Pivoting to Zoom in 2020, our supporters generously donated funds to purchase two school buses to serve as an evacuation vehicle when the bombs start falling, an ambulance to get medical help for injured children, and of course, to transport the young children to their beloved Wisdom House School.

"There was heartbreak too. The news of Mazen Al Hamouda's disappearance in Syria broke all of our hearts, especially those of the students who fell in love with the lanky man with dark shadows under his eyes. Mazen's legacy will live on with some of these students, who went on to college to major in human rights and international relations. They will be the future peacebuilders, replacing dictatorships with civil societies in Syria and beyond.

"McGovern has been an ally for the Syrian people. He has organized programs for his congressional colleagues and others through the Lantos Human Rights Commission, to showcase Syrian heroes such as Caesar, who smuggled thousands of photographs of brutalized bodies of imprisoned Syrians, to expose to the world the war crimes of the Assad regime. We were moved by the genuine feelings expressed at the end of our meeting, when McGovern reminding his colleagues in Congress that they must recommit to bringing about an end to the carnage.

"Our own country is on a precipice, with democracy hanging by a thread. Recently, I have become aware that what has happened in Syria could one day envelop our own country. Fascism is rearing its ugly head on every continent. Aligning ourselves to support those who are suffering can grow an international movement for human rights. It begins in communities like those in western Massachusetts, with those who actively uphold the humanity of our brothers and sisters, no matter where they live."

RECOGNIZING MIKE EPPS, COMEDIAN, PRODUCER, AND ACTOR

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mike Epps, who will be filming his next Netflix comedy special in his hometown of Indianapolis and will also be inducted into the Madam Walker Legacy Center Walk of Fame on November 20, 2021.

Mike was born in Indianapolis to parents Mary Reed and Tommie Epps, and raised in our great city. Mike began performing comedy as a teenager. After achieving success in standup comedy, he moved to Atlanta, Georgia, to pursue a career in comedy at the Comedy Act Theater.

At 21 years old, Mike moved to New York City where he became a sensation in the underground Black comedy scene. Mike's career continued to prosper, performing in two HBO Def Comedy Jam broadcasts and appearing in the movie "Strays" in 1997 and the television series "The Sopranos" in 1999.

After New York, Mike's rise to fame took him to Los Angeles, where he landed a role in Ice Cube's movie "Next Friday." His acting career gained momentum, appearing in films such as "Dr. Dolittle 2," "All About the Benjamins" and "The Fighting Temptations," to name just a few.

Mike has used his platform to support our city and give back to others. In 2012, he served as the "Super Bowl Ambassador" to Indianapolis. In addition, his generous contributions to the Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation for the Arts in Georgia has helped provide opportunities for young people wishing to follow in his footsteps.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mike Epps. Our community is proud of his success and deeply grateful for his dedicated philanthropic and mentorship efforts, which are making a positive impact in the lives of countless young people across the country.

HONORING DR. DIETER MARTIN GRUEN'S 99TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SEAN CASTEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Dr. Dieter Martin Gruen's 99th birthday, honor his service and contributions to the scientific community, and record my continued support for his nomination for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

For nearly eight decades, Dr. Gruen has worked to enhance American technology development as a former Manhattan Project Scientist and Argonne National Laboratory Distinguished Fellow. Born in 1922, Dr. Gruen is an

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

internationally esteemed German-American chemist, inventor, and innovator who immigrated to the U.S. from Nazi Germany in 1936. Throughout his career, Dr. Gruen has been driven by his curiosity and commitment to science—allowing him to make critical contributions to nuclear fission and fusion, solar energy, energy storage, and conservation. Specifically, Dr. Gruen has made several key technological advancements such as the nuclear submarine reactor cooling design and purification of uranium used to end World War II in the Pacific theater.

Through this work and countless other selfless endeavors, Dr. Gruen has been recognized by the international scientific community with numerous awards—including from Argonne National Laboratory, Northwestern University, and the Patent Law Association of Chicago—for his pioneering research in chemistry, physics, along with the emerging fields of materials and nanoscience. Dr. Gruen has been granted over 60 U.S. patents for his work in alternative energy and discoveries in interdisciplinary subjects. His lifelong contribution to science and alternative energy technology is exemplary and his work continues through today. Dr. Gruen's tireless efforts to solve future clean energy challenges presented by climate change is seldom exhibited by an individual. Humble and unpretentious, Dr. Gruen has and remains the embodiment of a dedicated American and pure scientist.

Dr. Gruen's story is the story of many immigrant Americans: those who left behind places of persecution, discrimination, and lack of opportunity for a brighter future. Those who arrived on our shores and helped build our nation through their hard-work, courageous spirit, unyielding dedication, and personal sacrifice. His courage and tenacity is an inspiration for us all.

Through the years, I have had the great pleasure of sitting down with Dr. Gruen, and learned from his countless stories about his work on the Manhattan Project, the nuts and bolts of nuclear fission technology, and his unique journey to the United States. At 99, Dr. Gruen still sees the world as a place of vast opportunities for technological innovation, a quality that I know encourages my own optimism to tackle issues facing our society.

For the reasons mentioned here and many more, I sincerely believe that Dr. Dieter Gruen should be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his lifelong contributions to science and technology that continue today. Dr. Gruen's tireless efforts to solve future energy challenges is seldom exhibited by an individual. Humble and unpretentious, Dr. Gruen has and remains the embodiment of a dedicated American and pure scientist.

In April 2021, my colleagues Representatives BILL FOSTER, FRENCH HILL, JERRY MCNERNEY, and CHERI BUSTOS joined me in supporting Dr. Gruen's nomination for the highest civilian award in this country. Dr. Gruen has dedicated his life to science and made monumental contributions to shaping the United States as a leader and world power in technology, innovation, and national defense.

Congratulations to Dr. Gruen for his decades of accomplishments and exceptional contributions to science and the national security interests of the United States. I cannot think of a more deserving citizen for this award and today I wish him the happiest of birthdays.

RECOGNIZING MONGOLIA

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I rise to highlight the importance of the strategic relationship between the United States and Mongolia.

Though geographically surrounded by two countries, Russia to the north and China to the south, I am told that Mongolia recognizes the United States as its “third neighbor”—a key partnership forged through diplomatic, military, cultural, and economic relationships that provide immense value to both nations.

As the United States continually adapts, analyzes, and innovates to stay ahead of challenges from global competitors like China and Russia, maintaining and strengthening relationships with regional allies like Mongolia is critical. Since establishing formal diplomatic relations in 1987, and the country's peaceful democratic revolution in 1990, the United States and Mongolia have partnered to expand political and financial cooperation and to advance market-based reforms to stabilize and grow economic opportunities for Mongolian citizens.

The U.S. State Department's 2021 Investment Climate Statement on Mongolia highlighted the importance of direct foreign investment, especially from western companies and institutions, as pivotal for the growth and stability of the Mongolian economy. Mongolia is making efforts to bolster investor confidence by reiterating its commitment to implementing the U.S.-Mongolia Agreement on Transparency in Matters Related to International Trade and Investment. This agreement provides greater regulatory certainty and transparency for domestic and foreign investors by requiring a public-comment period before new regulations become final.

The State Department's report highlights areas of success where investments have outperformed expectations, particularly in retail and service sectors of the economy. The report also identifies sectors where greater certainty is needed to ensure continued economic growth, including the mining and natural resources industries.

To quote from the report:

“The Oyu Tolgoi copper and gold mine has resurfaced as a bellwether of Mongolia's investment climate. Upon reaching full production, the mine may produce as much as 25 percent of Mongolia's GDP. Resolving an ongoing investment dispute related to the mine between the government and multi-national shareholders is seen by many investors as essential to improving Mongolia's investment climate image internationally.” (2021 Investment Climate Statements: Mongolia, 2021)

A stable and robust Mongolian economy is central not only to the country's democratic, cultural, and financial independence, but it is also a clear strategic asset to the United States. I commend the Mongolian government for the steps it has taken to welcome and incentivize investment into its economy and encourage the government to continue to make progress on the institutional and legal measures that are needed to secure existing capital and encourage further investments into local jobs, businesses, and economic opportu-

nities for the Mongolian people. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I am honored to recognize the important relationship between the United States and Mongolia.

HONORING ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS WEEK

HON. A. DREW FERGUSON, IV

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Antibiotic Awareness Week as we work to combat a looming public health and national security crisis that may one day be our next pandemic if left unaddressed: antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Applying the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic by investing in pandemic preparedness now will save lives later. That is why I am spearheading bipartisan, bicameral legislation, the Pioneering Antimicrobial Subscriptions to End Upsurging Resistance Act, also known as the PASTEUR Act.

Through a partnership between the federal government and industry, this bill encourages innovative drug development to target the most threatening infections, improves the appropriate use of antibiotics, and ensures domestic availability when needed.

Madam Speaker, as we tackle this next medical frontier, we must bring together the unique capabilities and resources of the public and private sectors to solve the market failures impeding the development of new lines of antibiotics.

The PASTEUR Act accomplishes this, and I'm encouraged our legislation is included in a groundbreaking package introduced this week—Cures 2.0 that builds on the 21st Century Cures Act of 2016—taking another important step toward addressing antimicrobial resistance.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF JAMES MERIMON PAINTER

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of James Merimon Painter, who passed away in Prospect Hill, North Carolina on October 23, 2021.

James Painter spent his entire life advocating for and serving the community he loved. From helping his parents on their farm during the Great Depression, to advising the Caswell Vocational Commission Services and the Caswell Civic Center Committees, Painter was one who truly put his community before himself.

James took his knowledge of farming with him to the United States Navy where he was selected to lead a farming unit on the Mariana Island of Tinian to feed American GIs in the Pacific. While serving, he sustained serious injuries from sniper fire; and on a separate occasion, his tractor ran over a land-mine. Following the incident, Mr. Painter jokingly said, “that was a waste of a perfectly good tractor.”

After the war, James returned to his cattle farm and got married to his wife of 55 years—Ms. Josephine “Jo” Murchison. While predominantly raising beef cattle and grain, he served his community as the President of the Caswell County Farm Bureau, a position he proudly held for 17 years. Additionally, he was a member of the NC Farm Bureau Federation Board for 23 years. He won several different agriculture awards over the years—most notably being named “Cattleman of the Year” in 1975—while his family received the Soil and Water Conservation Farm Family award of 1979.

In describing Mr. Painter’s life, Caswell County Farm Bureau colleague Lucas Bernard wrote that, “James Painter will be remembered for his service to his community, Caswell County agriculture, and his nation. He has been an inspiration to me by seeing and hearing about his dedication to farming and agriculture locally, as well as overseas during WWII.”

James Painter was preceded in death by his wife, Josephine, and is survived by his nieces and nephews. The Caswell County community has lost a great soul, advocate, and gentleman with Mr. Painter’s passing. May he forever rest in peace.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring James Merimon Painter for his service to his community and his sacrifice for this Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNUAL COMMEMORATION OF HOLODOMOR

HON. ANDY LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the annual commemoration of Holodomor, the Genocidal Famine inflicted upon the people of Ukraine by the Soviet Union in 1932 and 1933.

In the early 1930s, the Soviet Union engineered a famine to ensure the Ukrainian people could not resist Joseph Stalin’s totalitarian policies. This famine, known and remembered as Holodomor, led to the deaths of at least 3.9 million people, or 13 percent of the population of Ukraine at the time. Some estimates of the number of those who died are much higher. “Holodomor” is a combination of the Ukrainian words “hunger” and “to inflict death”, a fitting name for the tragedy that occurred.

While Soviet bureaucrats suppressed the facts of Holodomor at the time, including instructing Western journalists not to write about it, it is widely acknowledged as a genocide today. In fact, in 2018, the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate each unanimously passed resolutions citing previous declarations of Holodomor as a genocide committed by Joseph Stalin and those around him. The vibrant Ukrainian-American community in Michigan’s Ninth District comes together each year in solemn commemoration of the millions of innocent lives taken and to ensure that this horrific event is never forgotten.

As a member of the Ukrainian Caucus, I am honored to stand with Ukrainian-Americans in my district and throughout our country in witness of Holodomor. I encourage my colleagues to join me in reflection and remembrance and recommit ourselves to preventing genocide anywhere on Earth in the future.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS J. GARI

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a notable resident within my district, Thomas J. Gari. Mr. Gari obtained a bachelor’s degree in Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering from my alma mater, the Pennsylvania State University in 1970, and later went on to achieve a master’s degree in Business Administration from Villanova University in 1986. Following his education, Tom left his private sector career to join the Internal Revenue Service in 1999. In every stage of his career, Tom always worked to support and empower others, leveraging his extensive experience to identify complex case issues, find viable solutions, and produce consistent, quality results. In his final years at the IRS, Tom served as Engineering Team Manager, in which he managed all operational aspects executed by his team. Now, after more than twenty-two impressive years of dedicated government service and professional leadership, Tom is entering retirement. I am proud to recognize Thomas J. Gari as an exceptional man of character, guided by a sense to better his community and country. He has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to overcome complex challenges throughout the years as well as a steadfast dedication to supporting his colleagues. We are incredibly grateful for the positive impact that Tom has had on our community, and we wish him well in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING POLICE CHIEF MARION EUGENE SEALY, JR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am grateful to recognize Police Chief Marion Eugene Sealy, Jr., of the City of Forest Acres for his 48 years of public service to his community. Chief Sealy will be retiring at the beginning of next year and South Carolina will be losing a great public servant.

Chief Sealy joined the Forest Acres Police Department in 1974 as a dispatcher. In 1975, he became a full-time patrol officer and shortly after was put in charge of the investigative division. Through his hard work and dedication, he became the Chief of Police of the Forest Acres Police Department in 1994.

Throughout his career in public service, Chief Sealy led the department through many hardships including the tragic death of Officer Greg Alia. He has been so encouraging to his widow Kassy Alia Ray and their son Sal as Kassy has established Serve and Connect to improve neighborhoods challenged by poverty and crime.

Through his leadership, he was able to successfully relocate the police department during the devastating 2015 thousand-year flood to ensure the community of Forest Acres had access to its police department. Working overnight with his colleagues to set up operations, he dedicated himself to the safety of his officers and staff. He has set the standard of ex-

cellence in his community and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JANIS SANTOS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to my good friend Janis Santos on her retirement following 40 years of dedicated public service to the children and families of western Massachusetts.

A pioneer in the field of early education and childhood development, Janis most recently served as CEO of Holyoke Chicopee Springfield Head Start. Through her efforts to expand Head Start’s programs across the Commonwealth, Janis has played a prominent role in improving the lives of more than 1,000 young children. Her diligence in directing the only migrant, seasonal Head Start program in Massachusetts only further demonstrates her exceptional commitment to helping the most vulnerable families in our communities.

In 1973, Janis began her lifelong advocacy and action on behalf of children and families by launching one of the first early-childhood centers in Ludlow, Massachusetts. Just six years later, in recognition of her cutting-edge approach to the field, Janis was taken on as Executive Director of Holyoke Chicopee Springfield Head Start. During her expansive and impressive career, Janis has served as Chair of the Massachusetts Head Start Directors Association, the New England Head Start Association, as well as a member of the National Advisory Panel for the Head Start 2010 Project here in our nation’s capital. While her myriad of leadership roles is most impressive, what I most admire about Janis is the tireless dedication she has demonstrated throughout her 40-year career to providing our youth the resources they need to succeed in the future.

Madam Speaker, in light of Janis Santos’ many achievements and remarkable contributions to the early education of the children of western Massachusetts, as well as her role in shaping conversations on early education throughout the nation, I would like to thank Janis for her steadfast service, and offer my personal best wishes for a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF CONGRESSMAN LARRY HOPKINS

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of my good friend and long-time colleague in this House chamber, the gentleman from Kentucky, Larry Hopkins, who represented the people of central Kentucky for 14 years from 1979 to 1993.

Congressman Hopkins served with great charisma and humor, befriending folks in every corner of Kentucky and across Capitol Hill. Public service was second nature to

Larry; he fought diligently for investments in our communities and worked hard to pave a brighter future for Kentucky. In fact, Larry won the Republican nomination for governor in 1991 before Brereton Jones succeeded in the general election. Prior to his federal service, he was also elected to serve in both chambers of the Kentucky state legislature.

As a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, he led the U.S. House Armed Services Committee with invaluable insight and expertise, leading the way for military modernization. He was a true patriot and champion for our U.S. Armed Forces on that committee.

Larry and I were close friends before arriving on Capitol Hill, often traveling together, and sharing stories from home and abroad. He deeply loved the people of Kentucky and worked tirelessly to improve this great Commonwealth. I count it a great honor to have called him a friend, and I send my deepest condolences to the Hopkins family.

SUPPORTING H. RES. 789, CENSURING REP. PAUL GOSAR OF ARIZONA

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, yesterday the House acted to discipline a Member for conduct that was unacceptable and in violation of all standards of decency and civility—conduct that brought disrepute to this institution. I joined 223 of my colleagues—Democrats and Republicans—in passing H. Res. 789 to officially censure Mr. PAUL GOSAR of Arizona and remove him from his assigned committees.

Mr. GOSAR recently posted on social media an animated video depicting him graphically killing a female Member of Congress—Rep. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ of New York—and violently attacking President Biden: Millions of people have seen this disturbing and violent video. Incredibly, Mr. GOSAR and 207 House Republicans excused this despicable act as “free speech” and “symbolic.” Producing and disseminating a video depicting the murder of a workplace colleague, of an elected federal official, and a fellow American is not symbolic—it is a threat that is intended to intimidate and inspire violence.

Rep. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ is a valued colleague who deserves to be treated with respect by all Members of Congress, even when political disagreements are significant. Mr. GOSAR’s use of official resources—paid for by American taxpayers—to depict the killing of a fellow Member of Congress is abhorrent, and it is conduct that was appropriately condemned by the House of Representatives.

This is not a complicated matter. If Mr. GOSAR had shared such a video targeting a colleague in any other workplace in America, he would have been immediately terminated. While Democrats and two Republicans condemned his actions, the Republican leader and more than 200 Republican members condoned his actions, defended his conduct, and made light of a death threat against a Member of Congress.

Have Republican Members of Congress become so craven that they do not know right

from wrong? Do my Republican colleagues not understand the signal this imagery sends to the American people, especially women and youth, that promoting violence—a male Member of Congress brutally murdering a woman, a female Member of Congress—is acceptable political speech? This video is not political or free speech, it is violent misogyny. The fact that it has been publicly defended by 207 Republican Members of Congress now makes such behavior part and parcel of the Republican playbook for how they intend to conduct themselves in the future.

As we all know, on January 6, 2021, a mob of thousands of insurrectionists attacked the U.S. Capitol to prevent Congress from affirming the election of Joe Biden as President of the United States. Mr. GOSAR did not refrain from embracing these insurrectionists and the violence that threatened the lives of Members of Congress, U.S. Capitol Police, and our congressional staff and workforce. Now Mr. GOSAR is again embracing violence to send a political message and achieve his political goals. It is reprehensible, and this behavior is destroying our democracy. I take Mr. GOSAR’s threat seriously because this conduct intentionally sends a signal to people who are more than willing to use violence to achieve political outcomes—as I experienced personally on January 6th.

Mr. GOSAR’s behavior demanded censure by the U.S. House. Furthermore, I strongly encourage federal law enforcement officials to investigate this matter further to determine if his actions reach a standard of criminal conduct that merit prosecution.

Every day I work as a Member of Congress in the U.S. House is an honor. Civility is not an option; it is a duty that is necessary if we are to govern and achieve our collective goals as Americans. Republicans and Democrats can disagree—strongly disagree—but we must always remember that we are all Americans, and the American people deserve our service and actions to be conducted with dignity and respect.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a great milestone for the Church of Philadelphia. On November 21st, the church will celebrate 40 years of ministry in Fort Worth.

The Church of Philadelphia has been a pillar of our North Texas community. This church celebrates the rich fabric of our community and welcomes people of all backgrounds to worship. Over the four decades since this church was founded by Pastor Gregory W. Spencer, the amount of growth that has occurred has been incredible. The Church has used their prosperity to give back to our community by helping all of those in need.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Church of Philadelphia on their great work so far, and wish them best of luck for what is yet to come as they continue to serve communities across Fort Worth.

HONORING JUDY L. ELLER

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Judy L. Eller of Peach Bottom, Pennsylvania for her more than forty years of federal service.

Judy got her start in the civil service through a work-study program with the Social Security Administration. From there, Judy would go on to hold a number of positions throughout our federal government with the United States Army, as well as the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Beginning in 1980, Judy was employed at the U.S. Army’s Research Institute for Chemical Defense in Aberdeen, Maryland, where she worked alongside military personnel in handling and dismantling chemical agents.

After her time at Aberdeen, Judy began working for the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1986, first at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Erie, Pennsylvania and later at other VA Medical Centers across Pennsylvania and Maryland. The highpoint of her career with the VA came when she took the position of Multi-Site Research Compliance Officer for the Fourth Veterans Integrated Services Network. Judy stayed in this role for seventeen years, lasting up until her retirement this month.

We thank Judy for the many years of dedicated service she gave to our country and its veterans. We wish her a well-deserved and restful retirement.

HONORING COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR GARY E. GRAHAM

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding military service of Command Sergeant Major Gary E. Graham who will be retiring this year after over 43 years of service in the Mississippi National Guard.

CSM Graham hails from Conehatta, MS where he lives with his wife, Julie, and their children, Micah, Jessica, and Layla. I want to take the time to thank his wife and children for their strength and support as a military family.

CSM Graham served a long and impressive military career beginning in 1978 when he attended Basic Training and AIT as a Wheeled Vehicle and Generator Mechanic at Fort Jackson, SC. CSM Graham mobilized and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2003 until 2005. Upon his return from deployment, he mobilized once again and assumed the position of Task Force Magnolia CSM for Hurricane Katrina Operations. From 2006 to 2011, he was assigned as the Commandant of the 3rd NCO Academy. He was then reassigned as the 154th Regimental Training Institute CSM. In August 2011, he was hand selected for NATO HQ Sarajevo Command as the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Military and Government leadership of the Balkan countries. From 2016 to 2017, he was appointed as the first Land Component Forces CSM. CSM Graham is currently

serving as the Garrison CSM for Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center.

For his outstanding service, CSM Graham has been awarded numerous prestigious awards, including the Bronze Star, Defense Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, and many other federal and state awards.

CSM Graham perfectly embodies the official organizational march of the United States National Guard "Always Ready, Always There!" He is a true American patriot and I am honored to call him my friend and fellow Guardsman. Our military servicemembers deserve to be recognized for their commitment to our great Nation and I am grateful for his unwavering dedication to our country.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIFE APPLICATION MINISTRIES

HON. ANDY LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Life Application Ministries, which is celebrating 25 years of service to the community of Warren, Michigan.

Life Application Ministries is a historic African American congregation, inspired by enthusiasm to give back and share the love of God, and preserve morale and justice throughout the community. Life Application Ministries grew out of a bible study group that quickly garnered members throughout the 1990s.

In 1996, Bishop Adolphus L. Cast founded the ministry in a time where African American congregations were not as prevalent in the area. In moments of racial injustice, the church gracefully responded with endless love and compassion to the community. Bishop Cast's mission has been to bring racial and economic harmony to the city of Warren and his leadership has led to significant momentum in that effort over the last two and a half decades.

Throughout its history, the ministry has honorably served the Warren community with various community programs including annual food drives and blood drives, providing financial assistance to residents and businesses, assisting people in need of help with home repair and cleanup projects, as well as participating in larger city cleanup efforts. The church also offers shelter to residents in need through partnership with the Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team.

One cannot recognize Life Application Ministries without acknowledging the remarkable leaders whose everyday commitment and dedication positively impact their members, our community, and beyond. I am proud to have the honor of recognizing Life Application Ministries today and to mark this quadricentennial event for the congregation. I encourage my colleagues to join me in offering congratulations to the entire Life Application Ministries community as they celebrate twenty-five years of ministry and service in Warren, Michigan.

HONORING RUSSELL COLOMBO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Russell (Russ) Colombo as he retires from a distinguished career in financial services spanning more than four decades and culminating in his role as President and Chief Operating Officer of Bank of Marin.

Russ grew up in Marin County, CA where he graduated from San Rafael High School. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics and Business Management from the University of California, Davis and his Master of Business Administration in Banking and Finance from Golden Gate University. After twenty-nine years in banking at Comerica Bank, Security Pacific, and Union Bank in San Francisco, Russ joined Bank of Marin as Executive Vice President and Branch Administrator in 2004. After only a year at the company, he was appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. As President and CEO since 2006, Russ led Bank of Marin's growth into a prominent business and valued community bank in Northern California.

During his 15 years at the helm, Russ has become the face of the Bank of Marin. Under his leadership, the Bank championed honorable values of high-quality service, community engagement, and employee wellbeing. Through his local relationship-building efforts and strategic planning, including four acquisitions, Russ oversaw the growth of Bank of Marin's assets by more than \$4 billion. Throughout this period of expansion, he continued to prioritize reinvesting in the local community. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Russ jumped in to meet the needs of the community, facilitating the lending of critical federal relief loans and protecting economic vitality in the region.

In a personal capacity, Russ continues to serve as Chairman of the Citizens Oversight Committee of Sonoma-Marina Area Rapid Transit (SMART). He is also a member and former board chair of the Board of the Western Bankers Association, and a former Audit Committee Member of Hanna Boys Center.

Through seasons of prosperity and difficult times, Russ never wavered from improving Bank of Marin's performance and its core mission of serving the local community. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in honoring Russ Colombo for his many years of effective professional and community service to Marin County and extending to him best wishes on his next endeavors.

SUPPORTING THE NUTRITION INITIATIVE TO REDUCE HEALTH DISPARITIES BY THE ACADEMY OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS AND THE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION USA

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, in late September, leaders of the Na-

tional Baptist Convention USA and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (or the Academy) announced a strategic partnership aimed at reducing health disparities for African Americans.

African Americans suffer disproportionately from COVID-19 deaths and other nutrition-related health disparities. Increasing access to healthy foods and addressing nutrition as a social determinant of health that prevents diabetes, heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure and obesity are the cornerstones of this partnership.

The joint initiative will consist of developing print and media resources that can be used in faith-based health ministries on issues such as diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, eating on a budget, and living with kidney disease. The National Baptist Convention USA will encourage member churches to incorporate these resources into new and existing programs and services, including workshops and seminars focused on biblical connections to food and nutrition.

I want to commend and thank Patricia Babjak, Chief Executive Officer of the Academy, Evelyn Crayton, a past president of the Academy and the current Chair of the National Baptist Convention Task Force on the joint nutrition partnership that is comprised of members from the National Organization of Blacks in Dietetics and Nutrition, as well as religious interest groups for their commitment and leadership to addressing health disparities. The Academy has worked closely on this significant initiative with National Baptist Convention USA President Rev. Dr. Jerry Young and Vice President Rev. Dr. William H. Foster, Jr.

This partnership recognizes the importance of enhancing the lives of African Americans and every racial and ethnic group by improving nutrition security. In my Congressional District, there are too many food deserts and places where it's easier to get access to guns than fruits and vegetables.

I urge us all to get behind this initiative, and I applaud the Academy and the National Baptist Convention USA for their lifesaving work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 I was unable to attend votes and missed Roll Call votes No. 374, No. 375, and No. 376. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on Roll Call vote No. 374, AYE on Roll Call vote No. 375 and AYE on Roll Call vote No. 376.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL W. MACKAY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Master Sergeant Michael W. MacKay who will be retiring today from the United States Marine Corps after 20 years of distinguished service. Mike was

raised in New York City and following the September 11th attacks he, like so many patriots, enlisted in the Marine Corps in November of 2001.

Mike's operational assignments include Operations Chief and Senior Enlisted Leader for the Commander of the Special Operations Command and Control Element in Africa. He also deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan on numerous occasions between 2003 and 2017 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Inherent Resolve. As a Critical Skills Operator, or Marine Raider, Mike has been stationed in Camp Lejeune, NC; Camp Pendleton, CA; and Washington, D.C. and has traveled to over 30 countries. He served as the Chief instructor of an advanced technical operations course at the Marine Raider Training Center and is a graduate of the USMC Congressional Fellowship program; USMC Combatant Diver Course; USMC Amphibious Reconnaissance Course; USMC Scout Sniper Course; U.S. Army Airborne Course; U.S. Army Special Forces Military Freefall; and the U.S. Navy Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape Course.

Mike graduated Summa Cum Laude from Norwich University's Bachelor of Science in Strategic Studies and Defense Analysis program. He earned a master's degree in Public Administration and Policy from American University and a graduate certificate in Legislative Studies from Georgetown University's Government Affairs Institute in Washington, D.C. He also completed the Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education II and earned the Michael A. Monsoor Leadership Award from the Joint Special Operations Senior Enlisted Advisors Course. Mike's brave actions on the battlefield earned him a number of awards, including the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, Joint Service Commendation Medal (Combat), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, 3 Combat Action Ribbons, 2 Presidential Unit Citations, 7 Sea Service Deployment Ribbons, and 6 Marine Corps Good Conduct Medals.

With his robust, boots-on-the-ground experience serving our nation around the globe, I am honored now to have Mike as a member of my staff. Prior to serving as my national security advisor, Mike was the Chief of Staff for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense of Special Operations and Combatting Terrorism and the Appropriations Liaison to the Assistant Secretary of Defense from Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict in the Department of Defense, Undersecretary of Defense for Policy. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank Mike for his exemplary service in the United States Marine Corps.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF WINTER THE DOLPHIN

HON. CHARLIE CRIST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. CRIST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the passing of Winter the Dolphin, in celebration of her extraordinary life, and in honor of her home and family at Clearwater Marine Aquarium in my district.

After being rescued from a crab trap in December 2005, two-month-old Winter lost her tail and had to adapt to life without it.

But Winter didn't just survive. She thrived. And with a new prosthetic tail, her resilience inspired millions around the world—including many wounded and disabled veterans.

Winter's story became the inspiration for the movies *Dolphin Tale* and *Dolphin Tale 2*. And over her life, Winter provided hope to all who met her, and brought awareness to the plight of marine mammals.

Winter's legacy is one of perseverance, courage, and environmental stewardship.

HONORING THE 155TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FRANKLIN

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 155th anniversary of First Baptist Church of Franklin which has been a continuing source of inspiration for the community of Franklin, Virginia. The church was founded in 1866, a year after slavery was abolished in the United States. First Baptist Church of Franklin stands tall as the oldest organization of continuous existence in Franklin.

The beginnings of First Baptist Church of Franklin were one of hardship at the initial phase of the Reconstruction era. A young man of faith named Joseph Gregory was recommended to be a licensed preacher. Reverend Gregory was assigned a post to give the message of Christ to the African American members of this and other churches.

Through the following months, he started preaching in the little village of Franklin. He took initiative and organized the Cool Spring Baptist Church. The church started in a brush arbor near the Black Water River, which was donated by Tom Barrett, one of the church's members. Unfortunately, the brush arbor burned down but this did not stop the continuous work of the congregants. Under the leadership of the founding pastor, the members rebuilt and continued serving their community. Following the leadership of Reverend Gregory, First Baptist Church of Franklin has had a diverse succession of faithful servants, such as Reverend Guy Powell, Reverend M.E. Gerst, Dr. W.R. Ashburn, Reverend S.W. Timms, Reverend W.E. Sanderlin, Dr. M.C. Allen, Reverend Grover C. Lassiter, Reverend Samuel Franklyn Daly, Reverend Henry Blunt, Reverend Dr. Paige Chargois, Reverend Dr. D.S. Riddick, II and the church's current pastor, Reverend Marcus D. Jennings.

First Baptist Church of Franklin is still a pillar of the community. The organization's ministries bring essential services to the City of Franklin and its citizens. In these trying times, First Baptist Church of Franklin has shown resiliency and remains a source of inspiration for its congregants.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the members and leaders of First Baptist Church of Franklin for their contributions to the City of Franklin for the last 155 years. The ongoing commitment to preach the gospel, give the good news and to extend faith is reflected in the rich history of the church. I commend pastor Marcus Jennings for his vision and service to his congregation, the community of Franklin, and the members of the congregation who

all make a community of faith possible. I wish the church many more years of growth and prosperity.

REMEMBERING NUNZIO MERLO

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Nunzio Merlo, who passed away on Friday, October 17, 2021 at the age of 80.

He was born September 14, 1941 in Gioiosa Marea Sicily, Italy the son of Giuseppe and Tindara Stancampiano-Pizzo Merlo. He grew up in the mountains of Sicily with his three sisters and three brothers, his father (a sheep farmer and cheese maker) and his mother (a homemaker). Nunzio's time as a young man in Sicily was spent working as a tree trimmer and a taxi driver, and he enjoyed singing and playing guitar. He met the love of his life, Maria, in Gioiosa Marea when he was nineteen and she was seventeen. They married on August 12, 1962.

On November 13, 1965 Nunzio immigrated to America with his wife and two-year-old son to build a new life. He was always a hard worker and often worked two jobs. Nunzio was employed at National Gypsum, the same company my grandfather Rizzzi worked for, General Motors Lordstown, Tauro Brother's Trucking, and the U.S. Postal Service. He was also a self-employed truck driver. He retired after 17 years working for the City of Niles Water Department in 2015.

He was a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Niles, where he could always be found volunteering at the church festivals and Lenten fish dinners. It wasn't an event at Mt. Carmel unless Nunzio was working. He was a member of the Sons of Italy, Niles Democratic Club, Niles Knights of Columbus Council 1681, and he played in several bocce leagues.

Nunzio's dedication to family was at the heart of everything he did. He especially enjoyed cooking Sunday dinners for his family. Nunzio enjoyed gardening and playing Italian cards with family and friends and attending his grandchildren's extracurricular activities and events. His kind heart, willingness to help others and his infectious smile will live in the memories of family and friends forever. I can truly say, Madam Speaker, I would not be in Congress today if it wasn't for Nunzio Merlo and his family. They launched my career and I will forever be grateful.

He will be sadly missed by his wife of 59 years, Maria Calabrese Merlo, his father-in-law Tindaro Calabrese of Niles, four sons: Joseph Merlo and his wife Louise of Niles, Robert Merlo and his wife Jamie of Niles, Tino Merlo and his wife Michelle of Howland, and Giovanna Merlo and his wife Monica of Niles, two sisters: Maria Merlo of Gioiosa Marea Sicily Italy, and Rosa Merlo of Cefalu, Sicily, ten grandchildren: Giuseppe Merlo (Sarah Marlinski), Nicolette Merlo, Alenna Merlo, Nunzio Merlo, Roberto Merlo, Isabella Merlo, Gianna Merlo, Tino Merlo, Emma Merlo, and Giovanna Merlo. He is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and cousins in the U.S. and Sicily.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his mother-in-law Maria Tindara Calabrese, three brothers: Salvatore Merlo, Vincenzo Merlo, and Domenico Merlo, and a sister Giovanna Merlo.

**WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP
DAY 2021**

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in honor of Women's Entrepreneurship Day which is celebrated around the world each year on November 19th.

Women-owned U.S. firms make up nearly 20 percent of all firms that employ people and this number is growing. There are nearly 13 million women-owned firms and they employ close to 10 million people. As a testament to their success, women-owned firms reported revenues of nearly \$1.9 trillion. This is truly astounding and shows you how vital women are to the economy. I applaud these women entrepreneurs and their economically vital businesses.

I also applaud Wendy Diamond, who has personally spearheaded the Women's Entrepreneurship Day movement. Since her campaign launched in 2013, her Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization has annually funded one thousand impoverished women with microloans to start their entrepreneurial journey in Nicaragua, India and Africa, hosted a nationwide entrepreneurship training program for 60,000 female college students and early-stage entrepreneurs in Saudi Arabia, initiated and funded the premiere Women's Disability Cohort Pitch Competition, a visionary program that raises funding opportunities for women marginalized by their disabilities in partnership with 2Gether International, provided financial literacy education to one thousand rural women in the Philippines, and partnered with a Uruguayan university to offer scholarships to young women.

Women's Entrepreneurship Day is now celebrated in 144 countries and 65 universities and colleges internationally, with numerous global ambassadors. The Women's Entrepreneurship Day mission is to empower the nearly four billion women worldwide to be catalysts of change and uplift the over 250 million girls living in poverty around the world.

As in past years, the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization Pioneer Awards recognizes, and honors distinguished women who are leaders and innovators across multiple categories with inspiring accomplishments. This year's honorees include:

Cathie Wood, Founder and CEO of ARK Investment Management, LLC—Financial Pioneer Award

Jeni Britton Bauer, CEO/Founder Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams—Culinary Pioneer Award
Judith Heumann, International Disability Rights Advocate, The Heumann Perspective—Human Rights Pioneer Award

Mona Scott-Young, CEO of Monami Productions—Entertainment Pioneer Award

The Honorable Kathy Hochul, 57th & first female Governor of New York State—Government Pioneer Award

Nadja Swarovski, Chair and Founder of Atelier Swarovski and Chair of Swarovski Foundation—Fashion Pioneer Award

Dawn Dickson-Akpoghe, CEO and Founder of PopCom—Technology Pioneer Award

Madam Speaker, I urge the entire House to recognize these remarkable role models, and to celebrate Women's Entrepreneurship Day this year and every year moving forward.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF JACOB
DEITER AND HIS VETERANS ME-
MORIAL EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT**

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jacob Deiter, an outstanding young man who dedicated his Eagle Scout project to our nation's veterans. Jacob went above and beyond to bring a veterans' memorial to his hometown of Van Buren, Ohio. His hard work and dedication are truly deserving of high praise.

Jacob is a 17-year-old senior at Van Buren High School and a member of Boy Scout Troop 313. In order to complete his Eagle Scout project, he spent the last two years planning and organizing the establishment of a memorial in the town square to honor the area's veterans.

Since 1775, millions of Americans have served in the United States Armed Forces. Every battle has left an impact on our nation's veterans and their families. It is important to recognize the sacrifices they made for our country. This memorial includes a sidewalk with engraved bricks honoring area veterans as well as a granite memorial stone. There are also seven flag poles, one for each branch of service along with the United States and POW flags.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jacob Deiter for the completion of this memorial for the veterans of Van Buren. He has shown outstanding leadership in his community and is most worthy of this recognition. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I wish Jacob all the best in his future endeavors.

**HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
LORRAINE SULLIVAN FROM THE
DEARBORN MICHIGAN SOCIAL
SECURITY OFFICE**

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Lorraine Sullivan on the occasion of her retirement from the Dearborn, Michigan Social Security Office after over thirty-seven years of service to the Social Security Administration. Her significant contributions in service of our community are worthy of commendation.

Mrs. Sullivan got her start at the Social Security Administration as a Stay in School participant. She later held many titles as she worked her way up the ranks, serving as Development Claims Clerk, Claims Technical Expert, Operations Supervisor and now, District Manager of the Dearborn Field Office. The recipient of two Regional Commission Citations, her excellence in service is evident through her work as a leader in the office. Dedicated to improving the conditions of the workplace, she is an advocate for diversity and inclusion within her office and celebrates the diversity of her staff, encouraging them to present developmental trainings on various topics.

Known by others for her can-do attitude and willingness to help others, her staff describes her as a fair, straightforward, and empathic manager. Always looking for a way to uplift her staff, she has encouraged and mentored many team members who have gone on to become leaders in their own right. Outside of work, she enjoys travelling, dancing, and spending time with her loving family, including her granddaughter Carlaheya. Mrs. Sullivan and her husband Carl Sullivan have two sons, Theo and Carl. An active member of Mount Olive Baptist Church—the church where she and Carl married twenty-three years ago, she is an enthusiastic volunteer and member of the choir.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Lorraine Sullivan for her dedicated service to the Dearborn Michigan Social Security Office. We are grateful for her years spent serving countless Michiganders and her legacy will live on through the numerous staff members that she has mentored. I join with Lorraine's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to her in retirement.

FTC INVESTIGATING BIG OIL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of President Biden's call for the FTC to investigate the world's largest oil companies that appear to be engaging in egregious price manipulation of oil and gasoline prices.

In August, Big Oil started substantially reducing production—a bizarre move as our economy was surging forward after the pandemic downturn.

At a time when oil production costs are going down, and unprocessed gasoline awaits distilling, Big Oil is driving prices up—and reaping the benefits. The two biggest companies are on pace to double their income since 2019. This is outrageous.

It appears corporate fat cats are padding their own wallets at the expense of our national wellbeing. Enough is enough.

The FTC should take a deep dive into Big Oil—and put a stop to any nefarious behavior that is harming hardworking Americans.

I applaud President Biden's call for action—and hope to see enforcement soon.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICES OF THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION'S EMPLOYEES AND OFFICERS ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF TSA'S ESTABLISHMENT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I join with the Ranking Member of the House Homeland Security Committee, JOHN KATKO, and Transportation and Maritime Security Subcommittee Chairwoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN and Ranking Member CARLOS GIMENEZ, to mark tomorrow's 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Transportation Security Administration.

Following the devastating attacks of September 11, 2001, Federal authorities undertook the massive effort to safeguard and defend our national transportation system. In the past two decades, TSA has implemented advanced security technologies, responded to new and ever-changing threats, and protected the lives of billions of passengers from around the country and across the globe. Today, even amid the dangers of the COVID-19 pandemic, Transportation Security Officers, Federal Air Marshals, Transportation Security Inspectors, and other TSA employees continue to serve on the front lines and protect the lives of passengers and the security of cargo traveling by air, sea, road, and rail.

I include in the RECORD the text of a resolution recognizing the service and sacrifices of TSA's employees and officers on the 20th anniversary of TSA's establishment.

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the service and sacrifices of the Transportation Security Administration's employees and officers on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of TSA and the role TSA's employees and officers play in keeping our Nation secure.

Whereas November 19, 2021, marks the 20th anniversary of the enactment of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (Public Law 107-71), which amended title 49, United States Code, to establish the Transportation Security Administration (TSA);

Whereas the TSA was established following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, with the mission to secure transportation systems and restore confidence in air travel;

Whereas for 20 years TSA employees and officers have bravely served on the front lines keeping our skies and the traveling public safe, even in the face of targeted attacks such as that which took the life of Officer Gerardo Hernandez;

Whereas the TSA has remained on the front lines at our Nation's airports throughout the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas the TSA has had over 10,000 employees test positive for COVID-19, with 32 TSA employees having lost their lives from March 2020 through October 2021;

Whereas since its establishment, TSA employees and officers have endeavored to improve security domestically and internationally, across all modes of transportation,

against a wide range of evolving physical and cyber threats; and

Whereas Americans will continue to look to TSA to be vigilant in the face of known and emerging threats: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes—

(A) the service and sacrifices of the TSA's employees and officers on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of TSA; and

(B) the role TSA's employees and officers play in keeping our Nation secure; and

(2) encourages all Americans to observe TSA's 20th anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

HONORING JANICE SIEGEL ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2021

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the work and dedication of my longest-serving congressional staff person—Janice Siegel.

Janice worked with me and a small group of people on the brief but intense campaign to fill the vacancy left by Ted Weiss in 1992. She came with me to Washington, D.C., to set up my office and staff for my first term and stayed with my office for 29 years. As my Director of Operations, Janice provided sound advice on complicated budget, ethics, and personnel matters. Her careful, methodical approach to financial matters has served the office well and has saved us tens of thousands of dollars over the years. Janice also managed my D.C. schedule for more than twenty years, made countless train/plane/and hotel reservations for me, and tracked every penny of our Members' Representational Allowance. Perhaps most importantly she made sure we never overspent our MRA, and, therefore, I was never asked to pay for any office expenses from my own pocket. I thank her for that.

Janice also coordinated numerous office moves over her career in the House and worked on everything from the color of the carpet, walls and drapes, to the purchasing of equipment, and movement of phones and computers throughout the House complex. She was well known throughout the House by the many hundreds of people she worked with on all these matters over the years.

Janice not only served my office well, but she was a real asset to the House of Representatives as a whole and helped with numerous House-wide initiatives to make the House operate more efficiently and effectively.

Janice founded the Professional Administrative Managers (PAM) organization, and as its leader she organized a number of large meetings which brought staff together with House Administrative officials to discuss the implementation of new policies and procedures related to House operations. In addition, she worked with the Office of the Inspector Gen-

eral to create a "Financial Administrators Curriculum" which is now offered by the Congressional Staff Academy. Her organization included offices from both sides of the aisle and its influence was felt by the leaders of House Administration who frequently sought input and advice from the group. She was in regular contact with the various Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) of the House, the C.F.O., and the Directors of Payroll during her time on the Hill. These relationships gave her access to information and resources that were very helpful to our office.

On another note, Janice has always cared about me personally, about my reputation, and especially about my personal safety. Over the years, Janice made sure the Capitol Police were aware of the threats against me and took additional steps to enhance my safety. She has had my interests in mind as she made spending and ethics decisions and was driven by a strong sense of right and wrong that kept me out of trouble for her entire tenure. As she was fond of saying, her job was to keep me OUT of the news. Meaning, she never wanted there to be a news story that we were not running the office ethically or in a financially sound manner.

Finally, Janice is a compassionate, caring person who has a touch for and a real understanding of the importance of nice gestures. She takes the initiative to make suggestions for reaching out to people, especially when they are sick or someone close to them has recently passed away. She is thoughtful and considerate of others when it matters most. I appreciate all she has done over the years to connect with people facing trying times.

I would be remiss if I did not mention Janice's family and her husband, Frank Mumford. Janice is a wonderful daughter, sister, and wife and mentioned her family often while at work. She cared for her father when he became ill and moved into her home, and helped her sister get the help she needed to get treatment for cancer. She and Frank supported each other through tough times and were always there for one another. She is lucky to have Frank by her side.

Janice herself is a breast cancer survivor and she worked in our office all through her own treatment. She faced the diagnosis bravely and unafraid. She has always been a strong supporter of breast cancer research and funding and was always looking for ways for us to get involved and be supportive of the cause. We know that the loss of her mother to the disease when she was just a child affected her deeply. We imagine her mother would be proud to see her daughter working in Congress, supporting efforts to increase funding for breast cancer research, working for a Member from New York City, and doing so with such distinction and for such a long period of time.

I know I am proud of the work she has done for us and want to sincerely thank her for everything she has done for me.

We will miss Janice. We wish her all the best in her retirement.